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Change History

| Version | Date | Changes |
|-----------|-------------|--|
| FT-014.01 | 8-Sep-2022 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Original document (not the original document, but I am going to call it that) |
| FT-014.02 | 13-Nov-2024 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Added Change History tableAdded titles “Parent of this Family” and “This Family” to this page.Added Page Numbers to all pages.Added a Header to all pages.Deleted “FT-014” boxes on first and second pages of the document, as it keeps moving around and is superfluous anyway with a Header.Updated Marilda’s death information |

Notes: The newest version is in **blue font**, and the changes made to the document are also denoted in **blue font** in the document below.

Parents of this Family

| FT-023 | | | |
|-----------------|------|----------------------|------|
| Isaiah H. Lewis | | Martha Rivers Bishop | |
| 1823 | 1864 | 1835 | 1885 |

| FT-024 | | | |
|----------------|------|-----------------------|------|
| Jacob Jeffreys | | Martha Caroline Askew | |
| 1832 | 1902 | 1839 | 1902 |

This Family

| William Jeptha Lewis | |
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| Born | 05-Apr-1854 |
| Where | Marion County, Alabama |
| Died | 21-Jun-1916 |
| Where | Marion County, Alabama |
| Buried | Cooper Cemetery, Hamilton, Marion, Alabama |
| Sources | |

Married:
16-May-1881
Where:
Marion Cty, AL
Source:

Ancestry.com

| Marilda Caroline Jeffreys | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Born | 08-Oct-1864 ¹ |
| Where | Alabama ¹ |
| Died | 04-Nov-1942 ¹ |
| Where | Hanford, Kings County, CA ¹ |
| Buried | Grangeville Cemetery, Armona, CA ^{1,2} |
| Sources | <div><div>1. Source 885</div><div>2. John visited there and saw the gravestone</div></div> |

Children:

| Name | Born | Where | Source | Died | Where | Buried | Source |
|-----------------------------------|------------|---------|--------------------------------|-------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| John Riley (should be John Boley) | 8-Jun-1882 | Alabama | 118 FindaGrave | 28-Jan-1975 | Mt. Pleasant, TX | Masonic, Cemetery, Mt. Pleasant, TX | 119 FindaGrave |
| James Houston | | | FT-007 | | | | FT-007 |

| Name | Born | Where | Source | Died | Where | Buried | Source |
|---------------|------------------|------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|--|----------------------------|
| Lullar Jane | January 25, 1888 | Marion County, Alabama | 118 FindaGrave | November 16, 1902 | Marion County, AL, USA | Cooper Cemetery, Marion County, AL | FindaGrave |
| William Elmer | August 25, 1897 | Alabama | 118, FindaGrave | February 22, 1932 | | Redwater Cemetery, Redwater, Bowie County, TX, USA | FindaGrave |
| Lizzie Bell | January 11, 1900 | Alabama | 118 FindaGrave | October 9, 1978 | CA, USA | East Lawn Elk Grove Memorial Park, Elk Grove, Sacramento County, CA, USA | FindaGrave |
| Walter Vernon | March 25, 1902 | Texas, USA | FindaGrave | October 27, 1973 | Howe, Le Flore County, OK, USA | Howe Cemetery, Howe, Le Flore County, OK, USA | FindaGrave |

Other Marriages: None

Story:

| Activity | Sources |
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| <p>Current Status:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Everything looks good at this point. | |
| <p>1860 US Federal Census, enumerated June 7, 1860 in the Western District of Marion County, AL, US (nearest post office is Prentiss (?) and I have been unable to find the location of this office. It is probably a ghost town by now.</p> <p>In 1860, Isaiah Lewis (38) is living with his wife Martha (27), 3 children, and couple who are farm laborers on his farm. Isaiah owns real estate worth \$100 and has a personal estate worth \$100. Isaiah was born in South Carolina and Martha in Alabama. The others living in the household are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> William Lewis (5), born in AL John B. (4), born in AL Almina (should be Elmina), (1), born in AL William Clayton (25), farm laborer, personal estate worth of \$42, born in AL Mary Clayton (William's wife), (21), born in AL <p>William and Mary Clayton were married within the last year.</p> <p>Since Isaiah's net worth was so low, it is doubtful he had any slaves.</p> | 204 |
| <p>1870 US Federal Census, enumerated June 30, 1870 in the Western District of Marion County, AL, USA</p> <p>As Isaiah died during the Civil War, Martha has remarried to John Boyd. [John Note: William Jephtha's FindaGrave webpage says "Boyett". It could be the enumerator heard wrong.] Martha (35) has married a much younger man, as John is only 25. May have been a problem with many young men dying during the Civil War. John was born in AL, and is a farmer, with a net worth in real estate of \$100 and a personal estate worth of \$100. Martha is checked as being unable to read and write, but John seems to be able to read and write. Living with John and Martha are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> William (16), who is farming with them, born in AL, checked as being unable to read and write J. B. (John Boley) (14), checked as being unable to read and write Emaline (12), checked as being unable to read and write Caroline (10), not checked as being unable to read and write Catherine (5), not checked as being unable to read and write <p>Catherine's entry looks almost like Catherine's last name is Boyd. On William Jephtha's FindaGrave webpage, we see a Martha Lewis who was born in 1866. Maybe they called her Catherine or Catherine was her middle name? There is no Boyd or Boyett, in the blended family who would be 5 years old in 1870. There was a child who died in infancy in 1869 shown on William Jephtha's FindaGrave webpage. Maybe we will learn more in later Census documents!</p> | 207 FindaGrave (William Jephtha) |
| <p>1870 US Federal Census, enumerated June 30, 1870 in the Western District of Marion County, AL, USA (nearest Post Office Pikeville)</p> <p>In 1870, Marilda was living with her parents – Jacob Jeffreys (34) and Caroline Askew (30) near Pikeville, AL – actually not too far from William Jephtha Lewis' family! Jacob was a farmer, with a</p> | 208 |

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| <p>real estate worth of \$100 and a personal estate worth \$100. Jacob and Caroline were both born in AL and both are marked as unable to read or write.</p> <p>Others living with Jacob and Caroline are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rilda (Marilda), daughter, (5), born in AL • Jane, daughter, (4), born in AL • Sarah Escue (Askew), mother-in-law, (70), born in SC, marked as cannot read or write. Sarah is marked as owning \$100 of real estate. | |
| <p>1880 US Federal Census, enumerated June 19, 1880 in Township 11, Range 15 in Marion County, AL, USA</p> <p>In 1880, the family name is “Boyett”, not “Boyd” as in the 1870 Census – except of course for the older Lewis children. John’s name has changed from the 1870 Census. Now he is William J. Boyett (34). John is still farming, was born in AL, while his parents were born in SC. Martha is 45, and now says she and her parents were born in SC (changed from the 1860 and 1870 Censuses, which listed AL). William and Martha have now had several children of their own:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lucien G., son, 9 years old, born in AL • Ellen, daughter, 6 years old, born in AL • Robert, son, 3 years old, born in AL • Melvinia, daughter, 1 year old, born in AL <p>The Lewis children still living with William and Martha are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • William Jephtha (25), working as a farm laborer, born in AL • John Boley (23), working as a farm laborer, born in AL • Martha G. (14) <p>William John Boyett’s mother and sister have also come to live with them:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delila A. Boyett, (58), born in SC, her parents born in SC also • Josephine Boyett (21), born in AL, her parents were born in SC. <p>Strangely enough, Delila is not listed as widowed, but as married within the Census Year (1880). Must have been a missed check mark. Josephine is also listed as married with the Census Year (1880), and also as single. The page is a bit smudgy around the check for the Census Year for Josephine, so maybe the enumerator knew they made a mistake and tried to wipe it out.</p> <p>I am not sure where “Catherine” went from the 1870 Census. Martha is now the name of the female Lewis child who would fit in that age period.</p> <p>All in all, that’s quite a blended household! Pieces of 3 or 4 families!</p> | 117 |
| <p>1880 US Federal Census, enumerated June 26, 1880 in Township 11, Range 14 in Marion County, AL, USA</p> <p>In 1880, Marilda was still living with her parents – Jacob (47) and Martha Caroline Askew (40) in Marion County, AL. Jacob was farming and Martha keeping house. Jacob was born in AL, but his parents were born in NC. Martha was born in GA, her father in TN, and her mother in SC.</p> <p>Others living with Jacob and Martha were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marilda, daughter (15), born in AL, assisting her mother • James R., son (14), born in AL, working as farm laborer • Samantha Jane, daughter (10), born in AL, assisting her mother • Sarah E., daughter (5), born in AL | 209 |

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Frederic Jackson, friend (23), farm laborer for part of the crop <p>1890 US Federal Census</p> <p>Most of the census' population schedules were badly damaged by a fire in the <u>Commerce Department Building</u> in January 1921. For more information about the fire, the National Archives published an article, "<u>First in the Path of the Firemen: The Fate of the 1890 Population Census</u>," in its Spring 1996 <i>Prologue</i>.</p> <p>The extant schedules are numbered and noted following rolls 1-3 below.</p> <p>Roll 1</p> <p>Perry County, Alabama (Perryville Beat No.11 and Severe Beat No. 8) [fragments 1-455].</p> <p>Roll 2</p> <p>District of Columbia. Q, 13th, 14th, R, Q, Corcoran, 15th, S, R, and Riggs Streets, Johnson Avenue, and S Street [fragments 456-781].</p> <p>Roll 3</p> <p>Muscogee County (Columbus), Georgia; McDonough County (Mound Twp.), Illinois; Wright County (Rockford), Minnesota; Hudson County (Jersey City), New Jersey; Westchester County, (Eastchester); and Suffolk County (Brookhaven Twp.), New York; Gaston County (South Point Twp. and River Bend Twp.) and Cleveland County (Twp. No. 2), North Carolina; Hamilton County (Cincinnati) and Clinton County (Wayne Twp.), Ohio; Union County (Jefferson Twp.), South Dakota; Ellis County (J.P. No. 6, Mountain Peak, and Ovilla Precinct), Hood County (Precinct No. 5), Rusk County (No. 6 and J.P. No. 7), Trinity County (Trinity Town and Precinct No. 2) and Kaufman County (Kaufman) [fragments 782-1,233], Texas.</p> | <p>U. S. Census Information</p> |
| <p>1900 US Federal Census, enumerated June 7, 1900 in Precinct Two, Ryes?, Marion County, AL, USA</p> <p>In 1900 William Jeptha Lewis (46) had been married to Marilda (35) for 18 years. William states that he was born in April 1854 and Marilda was born in October 1864. They have had 5 children and all are alive at this time. William owns his own farm, free of mortgage, but has been unemployed for 3 months. William and Marilda can both speak and write English. Both of them were born in AL, as their parents were. [John Note: This is probably not true for William Jeptha. I think the enumerator just wrote down that everyone was born in AL. Isaiah Lewis was born in SC, Martha Rivers Bishop was born in AL.]</p> <p>Others living with William and Marilda are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> John R., son (17), born in June 1882 in AL, working as a farm laborer, can read and write. James H., son (14), born in April 1886 in AL, working as a farm laborer, can read and write. Lullar J., daughter (12), born in January 1888 in AL, working as a farm laborer, can read and write. William E., son (2), born in Aug 1897 in AL Lizzie B., daughter (4 months old), born in January 1900 in AL. Marthia J, sister (34), born in February 1866 in AL, working as a farm laborer, can read and write. | <p>013</p> |
| <p>1910 US Federal Census, enumerated April 25, 1910 in Precinct 6, Henson, in Lamar County, AL, USA</p> | <p>210</p> |

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| <p>In 1910, William (56) and Marilda (45) were living in Lamar County, AL and had been married for 28 years. They have had 6 children at this time, but only 5 are living. William was still farming on his own farm, but I can't tell if he owns it free of mortgage.</p> <p>Children living with William and Marilda are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • William E., son (12), working as a farm laborer, born in AL, not attending school • Lizzie B., daughter (10), working as a farm laborer, born in AL, not attending school • Walter V., son (8), working as a farm laborer, born in Vernon, TX. Vernon is about halfway between Dallas and Amarillo on the Oklahoma border. I am not sure why Marilda was traveling there at his birth time! There is no mention of whether attending school or not but probably not since he is working on farm as a laborer. <p>Lullar has died since the 1900 Census (in 1902) of causes not known to me at this time.</p> | |
| <p>William Jephtha Lewis died in June 1916 in Marion County, AL. On his FindaGrave webpage, the following is posted:</p> <p>"William Jephtha Lewis, first born of Isaiah Lewis and Martha Rivers Bishop, married Marilda C. Jeffreys, the daughter of Jacob and Martha Caroline Askew Jeffreys. William and brother John Boley were both expert marksman, winning numerous shooting matches as young men. Because of this marksman ability they were asked to joined the James brothers when [sic] they made their famous raid through Alabama."</p> | FindaGrave (William Jephtha) |
| <p>1920 US Federal Census, enumerated on January 5, 1920 in Howe, Le Flore County, OK, USA</p> <p>We find Marilda (55) in Howe, OK in 1920, living with the family of her daughter Lizzie. Lizzie (19) is married to Ernest L. Colvin (22), and they are renting a house. It appears that Ernest works for a railroad, as his job is described as "laborer, Section RR". The Colvins have two children living with them:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clay C. , son (3 years and 2 months old), born in AL • Althea, daughter (10 months old), born in OK. <p>So the Colvins have obviously moved from AL to OK sometime between November 1916 and March 1919. I would assume that Marilda moved in with Ernest and Lizzie soon after William Jephtha died in June 1916.</p> <p>According to FindaGrave, Ernest was born October 29, 1896 in Tennessee (his birth state as listed in the 1920 Federal Census – Source 212). He died March 13, 1974 in Stanislaw County, CA. He may have been moving with his railroad job, so it may be that we find Marilda moving across the country with the Colvins.</p> | 212 |
| <p>1930 US Federal Census, enumerated April 8, 1930 in Howe, Le Flore County, OK, USA (Source 213)</p> <p>In April 1930, we find Marilda now living with the family of her son, Walter Vernon Lewis, but still in Howe, OK. So Walter Vernon has followed his mother and sister to OK (or maybe vice versa?). Marilda is now 65 years old. Walter (28) is married to Cordia P. (19). They have apparently been married for 4 to 5 years, as Walter was 24 when they were married and Cordia was 15. They have a son, Vernon, who is 1 year and 10 months old. Walter is working as a track foreman for a steam railroad. Walter was born in TX and Cordia in OK.</p> <p>We also find that Marilda was listed as living in the Earnest (new spelling) Colvin household in Wister, Le Flore County, OK, USA in 1930, enumerated on April 3, 1930 (Source 214). So Marilda is traveling back and forth between these two households. Earnest is still working as a railway laborer.</p> | 213, 214 |

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| <p>1940 US Federal Census, enumerated April 9, 1940 in Howe, Le Flore County, OK, USA</p> <p>In April 1940, we find Marilda still living with the family of her son Walter Vernon Lewis in Howe, OK. Marilda is now 75 years old. Walter is now a section foreman for the railroad.</p> <p>After the 1940 Census, Marilda moved to California – probably following her daughter Lizzie Bell who moved to California with her family (Ernest Colvin and kids) after 1935. So they were “Okies” who probably moved to California during the Dust Bowl.</p> <p>13-Nov-2024 Update</p> <p>See update note below.</p> | 215 |
| <p>Marilda died in Hanford, Kings County, CA on November 4, 1942.</p> <p>13-Nov-2024 Update</p> <p>During a long road trip in September and October of 2024, I (John Sharp) stopped in Hanford, CA to see if he could learn more about where Marilda died and where she was buried. Source 885 is a certified copy of Marilda’s death certificate, which tells us that she was buried in Grangeville Cemetery, which is actually located in Armona, CA (just to the north of Armona). I went to the cemetery – and with the aid of someone who worked there – I found her gravestone (Source 886). It's just a worn granite stone, and I would like to replace it, but I have to jump through a lot of hoops to do so. I basically have to have a signed notarized letter from all of her living relatives that would allow me to replace the current gravestone. I am working on identifying all of her relatives now, but it will be an onerous process, and may not be possible.</p> <p>One of the other things to notice about the death certificate (Source 885) is that it says that Marilda has been living in the Hanford area for 5 years (arriving in 1937). That differs with the 1940 US Census which says she was in Le Flore County, OK in 1940. So it’s possible that either is wrong.</p> | 885, 886 |
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